

Federal Communications Commission:With regards to the matter before the FCC regarding program regulation of satellite based radio services:

In the 30 years I have been professionally involved with broadcasting there have only been a handful of times when I have experienced true quantum leaps in technology and its application. XM Radio is one of them. Whether one drives across town or cross country being able to select and access timely news and traffic reports in different cities is an essential public information source.

In New York there are three news stations that provide traffic reports every ten minutes, we are more fortunate than most cities in this regard. But even in New York there is a 5 minute gap among the 3 stations I have to punch presets for as I drive. I can turn to XM NYC Traffic channel and get the information I need in less than a minute.

The operators of XM Radio have established a truly new broadcast service. The fact that people pay to subscribe to XM should have a heavy bearing on the Commission's consideration. This medium should be encouraged not constrained in the types of information and services it provides. For example, in the future satellite radio may be able to provide even more interactive information on traffic!! This would be a terrific possibility that would have the potential to save energy and time!

In recent years the Commission has clearly made an effort to be receptive to new forms of media to that end I encourage the Commission to continue on its course.